

ABSTRACT

5 A purchase order tracking system and method is proposed, which allows a customer who have issued an electronic purchase order, such as EDI 850, to a manufacturer to track the progress of the manipulation of the purchase order by the manufacturer. The proposed purchase order tracking system and method is characterized by the provision of an on-line purchase order manipulation progress report for each received EDI-850 electronic purchase order to record related data at the completion of each stage of the purchase order manipulation. The purchase order manipulation progress report is then downloaded into a Web-linked database so as to allow the customer to gain access to the purchase order manipulation progress report by linking via Internet to the Web server and view the contents of the purchase order manipulation progress report through a Web browser program. This allows the customer to track the progress of the purchase order manipulation by the manufacturer more efficiently and reliably in real time via Internet.